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ADEQ comes into existence pursuant to the Environmental Quality Act (EQA) which was passed by the legislature and signed by Governor Bruce Babbitt on August 13, 1986. The law went into effect on July 1, 1987.

EQA established key programs: Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) Program for groundwater protection and the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) for environmental cleanup.

Gerald Teletske appointed first Director.

Fran Gonzalo is appointed Deputy Director.

135 employees.

Located at 2005 N. Central Ave. and Magnolia St, Ginzey's and 40th St.

In July 1987, the EPA promulgates the PM 10 standard.

First Environmental Ombudsman position in the nation established.

ENSCO hazardous waste treatment landfill groundwater permit issued.

Maryvale Cancer Cluster Study began in order to determine the relationships between the environment and the rate of childhood leukemia deaths in the area. The studies included air quality, groundwater and soil sampling and analysis.

Brown Cloud Study begins in the spring; Brown Cloud pilot study is undertaken and full scale study is designed.

New Pesticide Program to protect groundwater is implemented and data is collected describing the mobility and persistence of pesticides.

ADEQ's first list of WQARF sites was published and WQARF contractors were first hired to help ADEQ perform remedial investigations and undertake cleanups; 17 projects were initiated with WQARF moneys.

There are nine federal Superfund sites in either final or proposed status.

Operator Certification - licensing requirements are set up for operators of drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities.

The implementation of the new requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act begins.

Randy Wood is appointed Director.

A demonstration project for Geographic Information System (GIS) was started.

Office of Air Quality entered the second phase of its "Brown Cloud Study".

Oxygenated fuels program was implemented on Oct. 1, as required by AZ House Bill 2206.

ADEQ implemented a new program to prevent environmental contamination caused by pesticides.

More than 19,000 USTs are known to exist in Arizona and nearly 800 are known to be leaking.

728 wastewater treatment systems are regulated.

ADEQ approved 272 wastewater facility plans and 85 sub-division plans.

Federal Safe Drinking Water Act — new requirements include increased monitoring; prohibitions against lead in water systems; and use of disinfectants.

Vehicle emissions inspections were conducted by Hamilton Test Systems, Inc., an ADEQ contractor with 8 inspection stations in Maricopa County, 3 in Pima County.

A new dedicated funding mechanism, the Drains tax, for WQARF was approved in 1990 by the Arizona Legislature (HB 2562).

A policy for treatment and disposal of petroleum contaminated soils was developed by ADEQ.

ADEQ developed a priority list for requiring facilities which discharge to groundwater to obtain Aquifer Protection Permits (APPs).

More than 20,000 USTs are known to exist in Arizona and more than 1,500 are known to have leaked.

ADEQ worked with the Arizona Legislature to develop a State Assurance Fund (SAF) and a loan program to provide financial assistance to smaller businesses.

In the Surface Water Quality Assessment Report, toxic substances were identified in more than 940 miles of streams and nearly 22,000 acres of lakes in Arizona.

Completion of the Non-point Source Water Quality Management Program allowed Arizona to apply for and receive \$1.1 million in Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 (h) grants.

Riparian Habitat Task Force was established through executive order of Governor Mofford.

Recycling program legislation is passed.

First permits handbook is published.

Ed Fox is appointed Director in July.

William Wiley is appointed Deputy Director.

A new contractor, Gordon-Darby, Inc. of Louisville, KY, takes over vehicle emissions testing. They added 12 new inspection stations in Phoenix and Tucson.

UST SAF comes into existence, funded by 1 cent a gallon tank fee.

Air Quality Division gets civil penalty authority.

The first year of field reconnaissance survey and water quality monitoring and assessment work ever conducted by ADEQ on lakes and reservoirs.

Pollution Prevention program legislation is passed.

HB2121 was passed by the legislature reforming solid waste regulations in Arizona.

600 employees.

Moved to 3033 N. Central Ave. Regional offices established in Flagstaff and Tucson.

The Comprehensive Air Quality Act (SB 1430) was signed into law on July 10th.

Recycling grants are awarded for the first time.

ADEQ started a telephone hotline to offer up-to-date public information about rules.

Development of a major computer room to house the central voice and data operation for the agency.

The first year of operation for the Water Infrastructure Revolving Fund Program, one low-interest loan totaling \$30 million was given.

In March, EPA approved Arizona's Wellhead Protection Program, the first state in EPA's Region IX to win approval for this program.

Of more than 22,200 USTs at nearly 7,600 locations in AZ., 2,200 tanks were reported to have leaked; to date, 550 LUSTs have been remediated.

ADEQ adopted new drinking water rules.

31 new standards were approved to protect groundwater.

Remedial Projects Section managed 62 cleanup projects, including 24 WQARF Priority List sites, 17 voluntary cleanups, 13 military installations and eight nonmilitary federal Superfund sites. During the past year 5 sites were completely remediated and hazardous substances were removed at an additional 12 sites.

Air Quality Permits Program issued 72 installation permits and 121 operating permits.

Compliance and Enforcement. Air Quality Compliance program conducted 654 inspections, investigated 177 complaints, issued 94 notices of violation and initiated 6 formal enforcement actions.

The state's air quality monitoring network was expanded in several areas: most important enhancement was a station in central Phoenix with the first continuous PM 10 monitor in Phoenix.

Establishment of a new Pollution Prevention Program that required Toxic Data Report filing.

3 new sites added to WQARF Priority List.

465 UST systems were closed.

Internal phone-based support "HELP DESK" is available.

Arizona Strategic Alliance (APS/EPA/ADEQ) was created in Nov.

21 Reduce, Reuse and Recycle grants were awarded.

Created Administrative Counsel Office to coordinate and manage the Departments policy, rule making, and enforcement.

Launched Customer Service Division: housing Ombudsman, Outreach, Technical, Air Small Business Assistance, and Special Projects.

Tribal Liaison established a strong positive policy for working cooperatively with tribal governments.

Internal Audit team is established to provide financial, performance and review audit services.

Air Quality Division issued 90 permits.

Permanent air monitoring station established in Tempe.

A record number of over 300 hazardous waste cases were resolved. Previously, largest number was 110.

Closure of 1,976 USTs.

Vehicle emissions tested, diagnosed and reviewed 47,999 vehicles for waiver requests.

Arizona-Mexico Border Alliance created. ADEQ identified all UST and drinking water sources and conducted air, soil, and water sampling in the border region.

Office of Information Technology created to centrally support data processing needs of the Department.

All dry wells in AZ used solely for storm water disposal must be registered. Almost 2,000 dry wells were registered, bringing total number of dry wells listed to 10,179.

First employee handbooks were developed and distributed to each employee.

4 WQARF sites were added.

Developed a Statewide Household Hazardous Waste program.

Placement of a hazardous waste field inspector at the Tucson/Border area.

Pollution Protection Program (P3) created to reduce hazardous waste and set a reduction goal of 5% through 1996.

2 New areas determined by EPA to need compliance plans to attain federal particulate air quality standard: Payson and Bullhead City.

Arizona Partnership for Pollution Prevention was initiated to promote the implementation of pollution prevention by the largest hazardous waste generators.

Pollution prevention was awarded its first EPA grant which funded a border program to find a safer pesticide for agricultural use.

Green Team is established to develop and implement pollution prevention programs at ADEQ.

Russell Rhoades is appointed Director.

Karen Heidel is appointed Deputy Director.

Facilitated recycling at the 1996 Super Bowl events.

First Border Program Manager is appointed to focus on improving Mexico/Arizona border environment.

WIFA financial assistance exceeded \$100 Million to subdivisions and tribal governments to construct or upgrade publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities.

Smoking Vehicle Hotline established to report smoking vehicles.

8,653 active USTs at 3,074 separate UST facilities. An additional 14,991 USTs have been closed.

All agency computers upgraded to windows environment; Death of P-mail.

Solid Waste fee fund is established.

Used Oil Fund is established.

Brownsfield Program started.

Legislature passed a new law that ensures \$18 million yearly for WQARF cleanups.

Cleanups at 18 voluntary sites and 23 other sites were managed and 15 sites were completely remediated.

The Arizona Legislature passed new requirements for metro-Phoenix use of clean-burning gasoline in the summer.

The Legislature adopted new emission standards for off-road vehicles and other similar engines marketed in Arizona.

The metro-Phoenix area is the only area that does not meet the ambient air quality standards for carbon monoxide, ozone and PM 10.

Arizona is only one of 10 states taking part in a program to indicate the biological health of a water body.



1998

Western Regional Air Partnership is formed to improve visibility at Grand Canyon and 15 area national parks, monuments and wilderness areas on the Colorado Plateau.

Awarded \$800,000 in grants to 26 entities to promote recycling and waste minimization.

Order requires Cyprus Sierrita copper mine to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions by about 400 tons per year.

Border Program Helped six AZ border communities receive \$1.4 million for infrastructure improvements.

ADEQ served as lead contact agency for public and media queries stemming from a spill of 4,500 gal. of nitric acid at a Laveen farm that resulted in the evacuation of hundreds of residents.

AZURITE Phase I was implemented 30% under budget and four months ahead of schedule in FY99.

Water Permit Section issues a record number of permits and reduces backlog. 88 APPs (up from last year's 63). Backlog reduced from 267 to 233.

1999

Jaqueline E. Schafer appointed Director.

Phoenix-metro experienced no exceedances of the 1-hour ozone standard for the 3rd consecutive year and of the 8-hour carbon monoxide standard for 2 years allowing the state to petition EPA to declare the Valley in compliance.

ADEQ successful in obtaining a grant from EPA to establish a \$1 million Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund for sites in Phoenix and Tucson.

Agricultural Best Management Practices Committee was established to reduce particulate matter from agricultural crop and non-cropland and tillage/harvest activities.

“Ozone Alert Program.” started to help improve air quality by encouraging the use of alternatives to single-driver commuting.

25 Arizona communities now provide curbside recycling pickup.

Emergency Response. 3 significant mobilizations occurred in response to emergencies at Byers Ranch (a large volume of explosives found on the ranch), Hudson Farms (orangecloud of fuming nitric acid as a result of a release to a leak in a storage tank), and B&B Materials landfill (hazardous and solid wastes illegally buried at a sand and gravel operation).

The San Carlos/Safford/Duncan Watershed Advisory Group serving Graham and Greenlee Counties awarded more than \$1.2 million for environmental projects.

2000

Five water quality rules published. Unified Water Quality Permit, reclaimed water permits, reclaimed water quality standards, water quality planning rules and water quality fee fund rules which simplify permitting, strengthen environmental protection and recover appropriate program costs.

Replaced all agency computers with 32-bit Windows NT environment.

Office of Communication was established to coordinate and strengthen media relations, risk communications, Web site and document publication, educational and public information activities, internal communications, and employee recognition.

Established a network of air pollution monitors in Douglas, AZ and Agua Prieta, Sonora and collected data for a complete risk assessment.

SAF processed 1,076 applications for remediation cost assistance.

10 Community Advisory Boards were established for WQARF sites.

Secured passage of H.B. 2418 which authorized the agency to increase maximum fee for APPs from \$16,000 to \$75,000 to allow recovery of “reasonable and necessary” costs for permitting.

Water Quality Improvement Grants created new tools and processes to provide federal funds for nonpoint-source projects. \$1.9 million in total grant funding was provided.

EPA approved agency's Source Water Assessment Plan.

Governor Hull held a Brown Cloud Summit.

Established 2 community liaisons.

2001

Passage of HB 2426 created the AZ Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (AZPDES) program.

State broke ground on the new Capitol Mall building for ADEQ, a “green building.”

Legislature established the Underground Storage Tank Municipal Tank Closure Program to assist small towns in closing abandoned tanks that present a serious risk to health and safety.

ADEQ Intranet launched to ensure employees have information necessary to serve the public effectively. “News to Use” and the “Early Bird” were created to electronically inform employees about the agency and environmental issues around the state and nation.

New employee recognition program initiated including the Gold Star Award for DEQ employees to recognize coworkers “on-the-spot.”

During the South Phoenix initiative ADEQ removed more than 6,000 tons of solid and hazardous waste from a former auto shredding facility. A community information office was set up and staffed by English and Spanish speaking employees and weekly luncheons enabled community leaders and ADEQ managers to exchange ideas on improving environmental conditions in the area.

Recycling held the first Waste Reduction Assistance Funding Workshop.

TRW settlement, a joint civil and criminal settlement for allegedly illegally disposing sodium azide, resulted in \$22 million in fines and penalties and was the largest settlement of its kind in U.S. history.

Legislature establishes voluntary remediation program to respond to the market place demand for remediated properties by providing oversight of stakeholder funded cleanups.

2002

Richard W. Tobin II is appointed acting Director.

ADEQ moves to new office building at 1110 W. Washington which is registered as Arizona's first commercial “green building”.

The WQD completed the Triennial Review and forwarded to EPA for approval in April, 2002. Arizona was the only Region 9 state to prepare a nutrient criteria workplan on time. The plan focuses on developing criteria for lakes first and then working upstream.

ADEQ developed the Arsenic Master Plan to help AZ Water systems come into compliance with the new standard.

The Rodeo-Chediski fire consumed approximately 500,000 acres of public, tribal and private lands in one of Arizona's most devastating wild land fires. ADEQ waived its solid waste rules and the Recycling Program purchased two wood chippers for Navajo County.

The Underground Storage Tank Program streamlined its closure request process so that, by the end of June 2002, ADEQ was responding to requests within 60 days over 90 percent of the time. ADEQ reduced the Program's administrative costs so that more funding was available to reimburse owners and operators.

A prototype desktop GIS tool was developed for the WQARF program. This environmental mapping tool, referred to as AZMapper.

Bullhead City and Payson PM10 Nonattainment areas were redesignated to attainment for PM10 by EPA.

2003

Stephen A. Owens is appointed Director.

Patrick J. Cunningham is appointed Deputy Director.

Children's Environmental Health Project established in the Director's Office.

Smart NOI was developed to make the AZPDES stormwater application “user friendly” and to efficiently process thousands of NOIs annually.

Backlog of over 1,000 unpaid SAF claims eliminated.

WPD remediated and closed 212 contaminated sites (primarily underground storage tank sites) in fiscal year 2003.

ADEQ ordered the suspension and revocation of the hazardous waste permit issued to Innovative Waste Utilization (IWU) for violating hazardous waste laws at the it's facility in Phoenix. ADEQ oversaw the 18-day removal action to ensure that approximately 630,000 pounds of waste were removed and properly disposed of.

ADEQ awarded \$1,409,981 to fund 14 recycling projects as part of the department's efforts to support and promote recycling in Arizona.

The Water Permits Section successfully completed Operation Permit Arizona (OPERA) which had a goal to permit the 20 remaining existing non-mining facilities by Dec. 31, 2002 – one year ahead of the statutory requirement.

The Phoenix area urban visibility monitoring network was significantly enhanced and the data from the network was made available in real-time through the PhoenixVis.net Web site. A Visibility Index was developed and implemented.

ADEQ awarded a \$413,640 WQIG to the AZ Community Tree Council's "Trees for the Rim" project, to replace plants on private property destroyed by the Rodeo-Chediski fire.

2004

ADEQ's Five Year Strategic Plan approved.

School Bus Idling Reduction Program launched.

ADEQ completed the state implementation plan for the CAFO rule.

ADEQ greatly increased its Safe Drinking Water enforcement efforts – 75 Notices of Violation, 24 Administrative Orders, and 84 enforcement actions closed. All drinking water inspections targets were met or exceeded.

ADEQ undertook monitoring to assess the cause of fish kills in Apache, Canyon, and Saguaro Lakes. Monitoring confirmed potentially toxic algae in the lakes and ADEQ issued public advisories to avoid contact with foamy water in the lakes.

ADEQ pursued fish tissue sampling in AZ lakes and reservoirs prior to issuing fish consumption advisories for mercury in five lakes.

Creation of Route 66 Initiative.

SAF statutes are changed to revise SAF eligibility, sets a SAF sunset date of 7/2010.

ADEQ launched program to promote recycling at Little League baseball games across the state.

ADEQ added 3 sites to the WQARF registry list, bringing the total number of sites to 35. These are the first additions in five years.

ADEQ entered into a Consent Order with Universal Propulsion Company (UPCO) requiring them to clean up contaminated soil and groundwater and cease open burning of hazardous materials.

EPA approved changes to Arizona Cleaner Burning Gasoline statutes that implemented the phase-out and ultimate ban of Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) as a gasoline additive.

2005

Governor Napolitano created the Climate Change Advisory Committee.

Arizona Environmental Performance Track Program created.

Tank Programs Division created – Philip McNeely named TPD Director.

Arizona bans the use of MTBE.

Drinking Water inspections targets were exceeded with a record 95 Notices of Violation (NOV) and 16 administrative orders issued for the fiscal year.

The Technical Engineering Unit issued over 1,000 certificates for Approval to Construct and Certificates of Completion for water treatment systems.

Governor Napolitano appointed the Clean Colorado River Alliance to develop recommendations to address water quality issues in the Colorado River.

Kinder Morgan Energy Partners paid a \$500,000 civil penalty for environmental damage done when their pipeline ruptured in 2003. This was the largest penalty ever under the state's ground water protection law.

Yuma County received a Brownfields State Response Site Assessment Grant and a \$200,000 Brownfields Federal cleanup grant to address contamination at the Yuma Adair Park Archery Range.

Phoenix area redesignated to attainment for CO and One-Hour Ozone.

Praxair, LLC paid a \$550,000 civil penalty for operating a major source of hazardous air pollutants without a proper permit, multiple failures to monitor, sample, record and analyze air emissions and construction of a third arsine synthesis reactor without a permit. The facility also failed to report excess emissions, permit deviations and failed to submit compliance certifications.

ADEQ sunset extended 4 years to 2009.

2006

Governor Napolitano accepted recommendations of the Climate Change Advisory Committee; directs ADEQ to coordinate the state's climate change program.

Strategic Enforcement Unit established within the Director's Office.

ADEQ partnered with the AZ Cardinals to provide recycling at the University of Phoenix Stadium.

Unprecedented growth resulted in record numbers of permits and plan review applications. WQD issued 25 APP permits, 29 APP amendments and 52 permits for reuse of reclaimed waters. Over 1,250 certificates for approval to construct and certificates of completion were issued; 170 new subdivisions were approved.

ADEQ awarded \$1.64 million in grants to mitigate nonpoint source pollution throughout AZ.

The Monitoring Assistance Program (MAP) was expanded to include nitrate in the list of covered analytes. High levels of nitrate can cause blue baby syndrome.

Following a 3-year effort, new rules were adopted to update the Pesticide Contamination Prevention Program.

Federal Energy Policy Act passed which includes the UST Compliance Act which requires changes in new UST system installations, requires operator training and authorizes new methods of enforcement of UST operation regulations.

ADEQ initiated an illegal dumping program. The goal is to help local communities identify illegal dump sites and resources for clean up.

ADEQ's Green Business Program is launched with the Green Automotive Shops program.

ADEQ issued the first air quality permit in the U.S. in decades for construction of a new, production-sized oil refinery to Arizona Clean Fuels.

HAPs rules issued after 14 year delay.

2007

ADEQ's Border Team elevated to the Office of Border Environmental Protection.

Arizona established the Western Climate Initiative with other western states.

The Small Communities Assistance and Outreach Program was started.

Children's Environmental Health Project elevated to Office of CEH.

AZ helps create the Climate Registry.

TPD starts School Assistance Program.

TPD initiates Rural Community Assistance Program.

ADEQ partnered with the University of Arizona to promote and implement recycling at all home UA sporting events.

Drinking Water staff responded to approximately 10,000 Compliance Assistance actions, including phone calls, e-mails, referrals, and meetings.

Standin' on the Corner clean up. ADEQ's Brownfields and VRP programs facilitated the removal of asbestos contamination from the J.C. Penney/RASCO building, allowing Winslow to restore and expand a public park. ADEQ worked with EPA to provide total funding of \$315,000 - the largest amount ADEQ has ever provided to a community under the Brownfields program.

ADEQ awarded \$1,195,983 in grants to fund 19 recycling projects to support and promote recycling in AZ.

First major clean air legislation in a decade, resulting in 23 measures to reduce ozone and particulate pollution.

Soil cleanup rules issued with more protective standards for schools and child care centers.